

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 2, please delete the first line and insert the following:

$$n_{core} > n_{rods} \geq n_{cladding} \text{ and } n_{core} - n_{rods} > 0.1$$

Page 2, please delete line 17 and insert the following:

$$n_{core} > n_{rods} \geq n_{buffer}.$$

Page 4, please delete line 1 and insert the following:

$$n_{core} > n_{rods} \geq n_{cladding}.$$

Page 4, please delete line 5 and insert the following:

$$n_{core} > n_{rods} \geq n_{buffer}.$$

Page 4, please delete line 16 and insert the following:

$$n_{core} > n_{rods} \geq n_{cladding}.$$

Page 4, please delete line 21 and insert the following:

$$n_{core} > n_{rods} \geq n_{buffer}.$$

Page 4, please delete line 30 and insert the following:

$$n_{core} > n_{rods} \geq n_{cladding}.$$

Page 5, please delete line 7 and insert the following:

$$n_{core} > n_{rods} \geq n_{cladding}.$$

Page 5, please delete line 17 and insert the following:

$$n_{core} > n_{rods} \geq n_{cladding}.$$

Page 7, please delete line 7 and insert the following:

$$n_{core} > n_{rods} \geq n_{cladding} \text{ and } n_{buffer}$$

Page 9, please amend the paragraph beginning at line 17 as follows:

Other devices may also be made incorporating a photonic band structure in an optical waveguide in accordance with the present invention, such multiplexers, demultiplexers and dispersion compensators. These devices are formed in the same manner as described in WO98/53351 (BTG International Limited) referenced above, but with materials chosen to satisfy

~~$n_{core} > n_{rods} \geq n_{cladding}$~~ $n_{core} > n_{rods} \geq n_{cladding}$. Figure 5 is a schematic illustration of such an optical device 35, including an optical input 36 and an optical output 37. The device 35 typically includes a photonic band structure region in the optical path of an input optical signal which acts to process the signal in some way, such as dispersion compensating.